

# **STUDENTS' ATTITUDES TOWARD COOPERATIVE LEARNING STRATEGY IN ENGLISH CLASSROOMS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The study examines students' attitudes toward cooperative learning strategy in English classrooms. The research was conducted in 2016 in a private senior high school: SMA Kristen 1 Salatiga, Indonesia. There were seventy-five eleventh graders participated in filling in 4-type Likert Scale questionnaires. Moreover, the study found that the students had positive attitudes toward cooperative learning strategy which was done as group works. Students tended to show positive attitudes where they could get numerous benefits that could be attributed to cooperative learning, such as building students' social relationship and academic life, including enhancement in mastery of the materials as well as improvements on students' academic performances. The study also indicated that students also saw the strategy as an opportunity to gain understanding of materials and to express their ideas by engaging in heterogeneous groups. Most of the participants felt happy, helpful, and optimistic having to complete such mandatory group works. However, the study suggests that cooperative learning strategy has its strengths and weaknesses. Students' needs, interests, culture values, beliefs, and teaching effectiveness should be more considered in the teaching and learning processes. Therefore, further research could be conducted to generalize the findings for a larger population and make the study more complete.

**Key words:** senior high students, attitudes, group work, cooperative learning